

# United Nations urges talks on Western Sahara after the ceasefire | National

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United Nations (AP) — The United Nations Security Council extends UN peacekeeping operations in conflict-affected West Sahara for a year on Friday and is concerned about the collapse of the 1991 ceasefire between Morocco and the independent Polisario Front. And the revival of UN-led negotiations.

The vote was 13-2, with Russia and Tunisia abstaining.

The resolution drafted by the United States does not mention US support for Morocco's claims for mineral-rich territories during the decline of the Trump administration as part of its efforts to get Morocco to approve Israel. And, as a recent UN report mentions violent exchanges between the two countries that have been furious over the past year, they did not mention "low-intensity hostilities."

Morocco annexed Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony believed to have significant offshore oil deposits and mineral resources, in 1975, causing a conflict with the Polisario Front. The United Nations establishes a peacekeeping mission to mediate the 1991 ceasefire, monitor the ceasefire, and help prepare for a referendum on the future of the territory that never happened due to disagreements over who is eligible to vote. Did.

Morocco offers a wide range of autonomy to Western Sahara. However, the Polisario Front claims that an estimated 350,000 to 500,000 locals have the right to a referendum.

The resolution presupposes that "taking into account the efforts and subsequent developments made since 2006, to achieve a fair, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution that provides self-determination. It requires the parties to resume UN-led negotiations unconditionally. Of the people of Western Sahara. "This is" in the context of an arrangement consistent with the principles and objectives of the UN Charter, and in this regard the parties. It states that it should be done with "roles and responsibilities in mind".

Two roundtable meetings between Morocco and the Polisario Front in December 2018 and March 2019 will work with neighboring countries Algeria and Mauritania to move forward on the key issue of how to provide self-determination. I couldn't.

The resolution welcomes the appointment of Staffan de Mistura as the new personal envoy of Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in Western Sahara...